

What is claimed is:

1. An imaging device, comprising:

a processor adapted to receive and recognize archive files from one or more sources and perform operations based on the archive file type, wherein each archive file comprises one or more print jobs;

a storage device coupled to the processor and adapted to store archive files and print jobs; and

wherein the processor is coupled to one of an integral translator or an external translator that is adapted to translate each print job of the archive files into a print-ready format.

2. The imaging device of claim 1, wherein the one or more sources comprise one of a managing printer, a computer, and a processor.

3. The imaging device of claim 1, wherein the print-ready format is one of Printer Control Language, Post Script, and a graphical language.

4. The imaging device of claim 1, wherein the storage device comprises one or more of an SRAM, DRAM, non-volatile memory, register, magnetic media, and optical media.

5. The imaging device of claim 1, wherein the operations which the processor is adapted to perform based on the archive file type include one or more of:

decompressing the print jobs of the archive files;

storing the print jobs of the archive files into appropriate directories; and

transmitting the print jobs of the archive files to user-identified addresses.

6. The imaging device of claim 1, further comprising a control panel coupled to the processor, wherein the control panel is adapted to enable access and manipulation of the archive files and the associated print jobs.

7. The imaging device of claim 1, further comprising an embedded web server coupled to the processor, wherein the embedded web server is adapted to interface between the processor and one or more user-identified addresses.

8. The imaging device of claim 1, wherein the storage device is adapted to store archive files and print jobs based on one or more of the archive file type, archive file name, and an identifier associated with the archive file.

9. The imaging device of claim 1, further comprising an administrative program coupled to the processor and adapted to perform print job management.

10. A method of job retention for one or more imaging devices, comprising:
receiving an archive file containing one or more print jobs;
performing one or more operations based on the archive file type received;
translating each print job of the received archive file into a print-ready format;
and
performing one or more user defined operations.

11. The method of claim 10, wherein translating each print job of the received archive file into a print-ready format comprises translating each print job of the received archive file into one of Printer Control Language, Post Script, and a graphical language.

12. The method of claim 10, wherein performing one or more operations based on the archive file type received comprises one or more of:
decompressing each file of the received archive file into separate print jobs;
storing one or more of the files of the received archive file as separate print jobs; and
transmitting one or more files of the received archive file to user-identified addresses as separate print jobs.

13. The method of claim 10, wherein performing one or more user defined operations comprises one or more of:
storing one or more of the print jobs for subsequent processing;
printing one or more of the print jobs;
transmitting one or more of the print jobs to user-identified addresses; and
transferring one or more of the print jobs to an appropriate directory.

14. The method of claim 13, wherein transferring one or more of the print jobs to an appropriate directory comprises transferring one or more of the print jobs to an appropriate directory based on one of a file name associated with the print job, a file type associated with the print job, an address associated with the print job, a personal identification number associated with the print job, and an identifier associated with the print job.

15. The method of claim 10, further comprising transferring the archive file to the one or more imaging devices.

16. A computer-usable medium having computer-readable instructions stored thereon for execution by a processor to perform a method of job retention for an imaging device, the method comprising:

- receiving an archive file containing one or more print jobs;
- performing one or more operations based on the archive file type received; and
- translating each print job of the received archive file into a print-ready format.

17. The method of claim 16, wherein translating each print job of the received archive file into a print-ready format comprises translating each print job of the received archive file into one of Printer Control Language, Post Script, and graphical language.

18. The method of claim 16, wherein performing one or more operations based on the archive file type received comprises one or more of:

- decompressing each file of the received archive file into separate print jobs;
- storing one or more of the files of the received archive file as separate print jobs; and
- transmitting one or more files of the received archive file to user-identified addresses as separate print jobs.

19. The method of claim 16, further comprising performing one or more user defined operations, wherein performing one or more user defined operations comprises one or more of:

storing one or more of the print jobs for subsequent processing;
printing one or more of the print jobs;
transmitting one or more of the print jobs to user-identified addresses; and
transferring one or more of the print jobs to an appropriate directory.

20. The method of claim 19, wherein transferring one or more of the print jobs to an appropriate directory comprises transferring one or more of the print jobs to an appropriate directory based on one of a file name associated with the print job, a file type associated with the print job, an address associated with the print job, a personal identification number associated with the print job, and an identifier associated with the print job.